

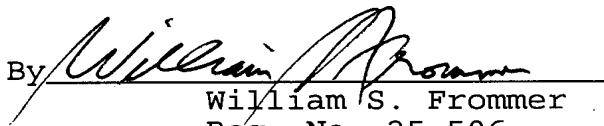
PATENT
450117-4172

computed on the basis that no dependent claim depends from more than one preceding claim.

Entry of this amendment and an early examination on the merits are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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WSF/erp